

New-York Daily Tribune

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 1864.

To Correspondents.

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THE TRIBUNE, New-York.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

Information has been received at the Navy Department from Commander S. C. Rowan, commanding the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, of the capture, by the steamer Columbian, of the steamer Sumter, and capture of the steamer Hattie Brook by the Sumter, armed and manned by a detachment of officers and men from the Pawnee, under the command of Acting-Master J. C. Chumley, of the Pawnee, up the St. John's River, Florida. The Hattie Brook is a valuable prize. She is fitted up as a five passenger boat, has a fine saloon, and has been engaged in transporting stores down the St. John's River. Admiral Farragut reports the capture, on the 12th of March, of the schooner Marion, by the steamer Arctostook, of Rio Brazos, bound to Havana from Tampico, with an assorted cargo. The Marion is of little value.

A letter from Fort Monroe, April 7, speaks of a gunboat expedition up the Chickahominy, and says: "The object of the expedition, which penetrated to within about fifteen miles of the Rebel capital, was for secret purposes of the utmost importance, and was faithfully performed throughout. Whatever it may have been, the officers concerned in it—namely, Capt. Harris, Lieut. Chambers, and Lieut. Haden—deserve great credit for the prompt and fearless execution of the General's orders."

A dispatch from Louisville, Ky. (date not given), says that Capt. Patrick, with 15 men of the 4th Kentucky, surprised 30 Rebels at Quicksand Creek, killed 10 and wounded 11, and captured all their arms, horses and camp equipage.

CONGRESS.

SENATE, April 11.—Mr. Cowan presented a remonstrance of the Pennsylvania Legislature and several resolutions in that State against the Goodyear India Rubber patent. Mr. Wade made a report with the evidence in the case in relation to the late military expedition into Florida, which was ordered to be printed. Mr. Wilson reported without amendment the bill to organize a regiment of veteran volunteer engineers. Mr. Grimes rose to a personal explanation, and read from the report of the Naval Committee, of which Mr. Hale is Chairman, an extract condemning the manner in which the resolutions concerning the transfer of seamen from the army to the navy had been introduced without the cognizance of the Committee. Mr. Hale replied briefly. The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the House Naval Appropriation bill for the year ending June 30, 1865, as reported from the Finance Committee with amendments, the most important of which strikes out an appropriation of \$500,000 for the purpose of building floating dry-docks for monitors at the New-York and Philadelphia Navy-Yards. The amendments were all concurred in, with the above exception. Mr. Hale offered various amendments, proposed by the Naval Committee, which were adopted. Without final action, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Speaker laid before the House Gen. Grant's report of the battle of Chattanooga, and the reports of the sub-commanders, which were ordered to be printed. Mr. Hooper introduced the National Bank or Currency bill, the consideration of which was postponed till Saturday. Mr. Broomall offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Naval Affairs to report a bill for the location of a Navy-Yard and Depot on the Delaware River, in Pennsylvania. Laid over. Mr. Brown introduced a joint resolution authorizing the President to appoint a commission of three officers, whose duty it shall be to examine the different harbors on the North-Western lakes, with the view of selecting an appropriate site for a Naval Depot. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs. Mr. Cravens offered the resolutions to amend the Constitution in favor of Slavery, and moved the previous question upon them. Decided in the negative, by 42 against 74. Debate arising, the resolutions went over. Mr. Davis introduced a bill, which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, establishing a Board of Naval Administration. The House proceeded to the consideration of the preamble and resolution offered by Mr. Finck condemning the war. Mr. Ashley moved to lay the resolution on the table. Carried, by Yeas 81; Nays 64. The House resumed the consideration of the following resolution offered by Mr. Colfax: That Alexander Long, a Representative from the 11th District of Ohio, having, on the 6th of April, 1864, declared himself in favor of recognizing the independence and nationality of the so-called Confederacy, now in arms against the Union, and thereby giving aid, countenance, and encouragement to persons engaged in armed hostility to the United States, is hereby expelled. A long and excited debate ensued, the main features of which were the speech of Fernando Wood in favor of submission to the South, and the patriotic reply of Gen. Schenck to the New York Copperhead. Without coming to a vote the House adjourned.

LEGISLATURE.

SENATE, April 11.—On motion of Mr. Hastings, the strike bill was recommitted to the Judiciary Committee, delegations being here from New-York, Brooklyn and other localities, who desire to be heard against it. Bills advanced to third reading: requiring births, marriages and deaths to be registered; a general bill authorizing the New-York Infirmary for indigent women and children to confer the title of M. D. Adjourned.

GENERAL NEWS.

The deaths in New-York during the past week were 478—132 men, 98 women, 130 boys, and 112 girls—a decrease of 9 from the mortality of the previous week, and an increase of 1 as compared with the mortality of the corresponding week of 1863. Of the deceased 209 were children under five years of age. The mortality by the principal diseases was as follows: Consumption, 73; inflammation of the lungs, 46; infantile convulsions, 26; scarlet fever, 24; typhus fever, 18; diphtheria, 17; croup, 18; dropsy in the head, 14; disease of the brain, 13; deaths from external causes, 24; among which are reported 12 deaths from old age, 1 murdered, 1 scalded, 8 killed by accidents.

The heaviest freshet known for ten years occurred on the line of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad on Saturday night. The Railroad was badly damaged at Cameron Run, four miles from Alexandria, and the water is entirely over the track and the bridge at that point. Heavy slides have occurred and deep cuts have been made. Bull Run bridge was washed away entirely. Broad Run and Kettle Run bridges were badly damaged.

The French steam-ship Guerriere, Capt. Reynard, arrived here yesterday from Port au Prince, 15 days. Experienced heavy easterly gales, carried away main-yard, and lost first cutter.

The steamer Caledonia, from Halifax, bound to Bermuda and Nassau, was wrecked on Spectacle Island on Friday last.

The total receipts of the Fair up to 3½ o'clock yesterday were \$605,922 13.

Gold opened upon the street at 170½, rose to 171½, and closed 171½. The strength of the market to-day was almost

wholly in United States stocks, which steadily advanced, \$200 selling at 112½, and at the improvement are firmly held. Money has been active at 7½ cent, and little new business has been done at less. Freight continues languid, and the market is again lower and very much depressed.

Hartford, Conn., yesterday elected Union Charter Officers in place of Copperheads—a gladdening change. In April, 1863, T. H. Seymour (Copper) had 358 majority; last week, O. S. Seymour (ditto) had 43 majority. Yesterday, Allyn S. Stillman (Union) was chosen Mayor by 23 majority, and our side carried four of the six Wards, making it a clean sweep. Hartford has not gone this way before for years.

A correspondent, a soldier in the Army of the Potomac, suggests that the men of that army should have the right of suffrage and the right of contribution on the sword question, now pending at the Metropolitan Fair. He asks that some person be named "to whom we can send the greenbacks." The suggestion is a good one, and the Committee having the matter in charge cannot do better than issue a "General Order" at once. The soldiers will gladly avail themselves of the privilege of contributing to the fund, and of testifying their preference among the Generals. Gen. McClellan's friends will, of course, be very glad to thus test their popularity where, they insist, it is still universal.

The House yesterday debated at great length the resolution of Mr. Colfax for the expulsion of Mr. Long, and adjourned without taking a vote. The course of the debate betrays the extreme anxiety of the Democrats to obscure the clear view of their policy, which the speech of Mr. Long presented, and to cast the odium of it upon the Peace Democrats only. On the Republican side Mr. Stevens repelled the effort to identify his views with those of the traitors, and Mr. Schenck retorted upon Mr. Fernando Wood with a historical statement of the political and personal career of the latter, that even in the inadequate telegraphic report may be seen to have been very damaging to Mr. Wood.

—We think our friends in the House will see that they have opened the door unnecessarily wide to debate, and that the political gain in the exposure of Democratic hypocrisies and self-trimming to half a dozen breezes does not compensate for the lost time. But we trust Mr. Long may be disposed of to-day, and that the House will then go to work.

Gen. Gillmore's report of the Florida expedition will be found in other columns. It demonstrates, first: That the plan of the expedition was Gen. Gillmore's, and that it had three distinct and sufficient military objects, to which a fourth, not military, was at a later period added by the President. Second: That the battle of Olustee was fought in consequence of an advance by Gen. Seymour, not only without, but clearly against, Gen. Gillmore's orders. The effort of the latter to countermand it was frustrated by a storm, which delayed his messenger.

It follows, therefore, that the Copperhead charge against the President of having caused an expedition into Florida for political purposes is refuted by the testimony of Gen. Gillmore; and that the responsibility for the disaster at Olustee is removed alike from the President and from Gen. Gillmore, and now rests fixedly upon Gen. Seymour. As the latter has been relieved from his command, though tardily, and summoned to Washington, we are entitled to presume that he is to go before a Court-Martial, and receive a just penalty for his crime.

There seems to be an irrepressible conflict in the Senate between Messrs. John P. Hale and James W. Grimes, leading members of the Committee on Naval Affairs. Mr. Grimes has proposed the abolition of the class of officers known as 'Navy Agents' and to procure supplies for the Navy as we do for the Army. This Mr. Hale vehemently opposes. We consider Mr. Grimes entirely right and Mr. Hale conspicuously wrong in the premises. The present Navy Agents are all, or nearly all, Republicans; so we will presume them very honest men; but if the facilities afforded by their position to amass great wealth suddenly at the public cost are uniformly and steadily resisted, why then we can only say that they are far better men than most of those they superseded when appointed to their present places. But we do not believe they are always deified; and, even if they are, we cannot hope always to have such angels to fill places so much better adapted and more inviting to thieves. We do hope and trust that Congress will turn the Navy Agencies inside out, and, if needful, bottom upward. They need it.

TO CONGRESS.

There are three measures which we are anxious that Congress should pass at once—measures whose immediate adoption is of great moment, and which are in such a stage that they can become laws without difficulty. They are:

The Freedmen's Bureau bill.

The bill to allow the loyal States to recruit from the citizens of the disloyal.

The bill to equalize the pay of colored and white troops.

1. The Freedmen's Bureau bill passed the House by a close vote some weeks since. It is understood that Mr. Sumner is dissatisfied with its details and proposes to submit a dissimilar measure to the Senate as a substitute. Such a course imperils the passage of any measure—nay, insures the defeat of both his and the House bill. To amend the bill and send it back is fatal, for the majority of its friends is so small that its enemies will have little difficulty in killing it in those late hours of the session when, if at all, it will again be reached. Mr. Sumner and the Senate must choose between the House bill and none—not between that and a better—and we presume no friend of the freedmen will hesitate when that is the alternative offered. Such a measure—or some measure—ought to have preceded the Emancipation Proclamation, to have smoothed for the slaves their difficult and uncertain path to freedom. For want of it they have stumbled in darkness and in terrible suffering for more than a year. Do not condemn them to further need-

less misery by a dispute as to matters that are not vital.

2. We have so recently urged the Enrollment bill upon the attention of the Senate, and there is such a total want of arguments against it, that we do not discuss its merits; we assume them, and speak now only of the necessity for immediate action. The West seems to be moved by a spirit of local jealousy, arising from the fear lest wealthier Eastern States may outbid the Western in the competition that will be opened. Mr. Grimes of Iowa, Mr. Trumbull of Illinois, and Mr. Sherman of Ohio, all oppose it on this ground. We pray them to put such thoughts aside, and remember that the country—the whole country—needs troops. Do not interpose sectional hostilities to prevent their enlistment. The bill passed the House more than six weeks since, and may go through the Senate at once if the Western members will be guided only by rational considerations.

3. The bill to equalize the pay of colored and white troops was passed by the Senate in a shape which we do not altogether approve, but which we regard as much better than nothing. We strove to impress upon the Senate that sentiment of justice which animates the people and which causes them to revolt from denying to the colored soldiers the wages justly and legally due them for past services. The Senate indicated its preference for a policy of repudiation. We shall never share it, nor shall we abandon the effort to get justice done the brave blacks who fought at Milliken's Bend, at Port Hudson, at Fort Wagner, at Olustee. It may be done by this bill, or by another, but clearly ought to be by this. If, however, the passage of this is to be endangered by a persistent effort in the House to restore to it those features of which it was bereft in the Senate, it may be a question what course ought to be taken. The equalization of future pay is a measure so essential to future enlistments that it must be adopted at all events, and cannot be postponed without serious injury to the service. What we entreat, then, is that the Senate bill shall be forthwith taken up in the House, amended, if in the judgment of its friends amendments can be carried; but at any rate, and in some shape, immediately passed.

OUR DUTY TO OUR COUNTRY AND HER DEFENDERS.

This day, Six Hundred Thousand Union soldiers are closing in upon the remaining strongholds of Slaveholding Treason, while Two Hundred Thousand more are volunteering and mustering in the Loyal States to reinforce and strengthen them from week to week during the campaign about to open. Westward of the Mississippi, the converging columns of Steele, Sherman, and Banks, are clearing Arkansas and Louisiana of the last remnants of their Rebel armies, preparatory to a grand united advance for the deliverance of Texas from the bloody grasp of Treason. On this side of the Mississippi, a good Half Million of Unionists, all under the direction of Lieut. Gen. Grant, are preparing to meet and beat the Rebels in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, or wherever else they can be most effectively assailed, avoiding the mistakes of dispersion and incoherence of operations which have hitherto proved so disastrous. We shall have victory and peace in God's good time; meanwhile, we who remain at home are doing what we can to cheer and sustain our heroic brethren in the field by unprecedented contributions to the Sanitary Commission and to other organized efforts for their physical and spiritual well-being. This is well; but there is another duty incumbent on every one of us whom God has blessed with property, which should be discharged promptly, zealously, and in a spirit of ungrudging devotion emulating that of our brothers and sons now braving exposure, privation, hardship and death on the tented field.

This duty is that of replenishing the Treasury of the Republic to the full measure of its needs, which is that of our obligation. We shall soon be called on for heavier taxes: let us pay them readily, cheerfully, and to the uttermost farthing. But meantime the Union asks us to subscribe to its new Loan; let us do it, one and all, until the emissaries of treason in our midst shall report to their confederates below the picket lines tidings that will cause their knees to quake like Belshazzar's at the handwriting on the wall.

Your Government, Countrymen! Patriots! asks you to subscribe and promptly fill up a National Loan of Two Hundred Millions of Dollars, now pressing needed to pay your Army and meet other urgent liabilities. Of this Loan, Ten or Twelve Millions have already been taken, though the bonds are hardly yet ready for delivery. But you can get them very speedily if you but subscribe and pay down your money. Resolve to do it now, and gather every dollar not absolutely needed to fulfill some imperative obligation, and lend it to your country to sustain her in her resistance to the death-flurry of Treason.

Do you ask what pecuniary inducements sustain the appeal to your patriotism? Observe and judge if they be not ample: The new Loan is called a "Ten-Forty"—that is, it is payable after ten and within forty years at the pleasure of the Government. You pay your subscription in Greenbacks and receive your principal and five per cent interest in Coin. Let us see what rate is proffered you: Suppose some one has One Thousand Dollars in coin laid away in some old stocking or cracked teapot, or securely lodged in a bank vault or private safe. He sells this for Greenbacks, of which he receives in exchange at to-day's rates Seventeen Hundred Dollars; but we will suppose the premium on Gold to fall off, so that he can only obtain Sixteen Hundred. These he invests in the new Loan, receiving therefor the promise of the United States to pay him Sixteen Hundred Dollars in Gold. He receives Eighty Dollars per annum in Gold as interest so long as the Government retains his money, and is paid at last Sixteen Hundred Dollars in Gold for One Thousand Dollars invested. Why is not this enough? Eight per cent a year on your Specie lent to your Government and Sixteen Hundred Dollars principal returned to you for One Thou-

sand lent. How much more would Shylock have exacted under the circumstances?

But this is not all. Your loan to the Government is not subject to State or local taxation, and is subject to only half the Income Tax you must pay on any other investment. And, if you choose to receive registered bonds, you stand inscribed on the great book of the Nation a public creditor, and cannot be divested of your property by theft, burglary, flood, fire, or any other calamity short of the great and final conflagration.

But may not the Debt be repudiated? Certainly it may be; just as your farm may be taken from you by violence, your bank stock distributed among the denizens of the Five Points, or your mortgages annulled and confiscated. Everything you have, or can have, of this world's goods, rests at last on the broad and solid basis of Public Faith. If this should ever become predominantly a nation of knaves, swindlers, assassins, the National Debt may be repudiated; but, whenever it is, no property will have any real value, for all rests on one basis and is guaranteed by the fact that Honesty and Justice are the true interest of all, and will be steadfastly maintained, in every clear case, by an overwhelming majority. The National Debt is far less likely to be repudiated, now that Millions are interested in it—through Savings Banks, Trust Companies, Banks and otherwise—than it was when but one-tenth its present amount.

Countrymen and women! almost any loyal bank, leading merchant, or dealer in money, will receive your money and promptly convert it into such Government bonds as you may indicate. You can take as little as \$50 if you can spare no more; or so many \$100s, \$500s, \$1,000s, \$5,000s, or \$10,000s, as you can pay for. If you choose coupon bonds, you can cut off the interest certificates as they fall due (or before) and obtain the gold for them (or greenbacks with the premium added) in almost any village or store. Lending to the Government is not like taking a mortgage or bond or personal note; because those before due can only be sold at a sacrifice in most cases; whereas a Government bond can always be sold for cash; or you can borrow on it whatever smaller sum you may want for thirty, sixty, or ninety days, at any bank, or of any one who has money to lend, at the very lowest rate of interest, and without asking any favor. Every one likes this kind of security—that is, every one likely to have the money to lend. We consider five per cent on a Government bond equal to seven on an ordinary mortgage. And you are to-day offered more than eight per cent by your Government, with sixteen dollars of principal for every ten dollars you lend. What gold-mine in Utah or other air-castle of moonshine do you suppose equal to that?

Americans! Patriots! Countrymen! speak to friends, your neighbors, your relatives, and exhort every one to vie with you in piling their money into the new Ten-Forty Loan! Beg every one to put off building, fencing, improving, beautifying, for this year—all the Money and Labor being urgently needed for more pressing use—and lend every disposable dollar to sustain your country in her crowning struggle with the Rebellion!

THE SPIRIT OF THE FAIR.

Estimated by its probable pecuniary result, which, considering the positive material work before us, is not to be disregarded, the Fair in behalf of the Sanitary Commission will be a magnificent success. The amount of money which will be secured, in spite of the prevailing ratio of values, will be great; and its judicious expenditure—a task which will perhaps be found more difficult than its accumulation—must alleviate an amount of suffering almost incalculable. Having thus spoken with justice of what this charitable enterprise will accomplish, we are at liberty to consider the excellent moral impulses which have culminated in a spectacle so brilliant—the tender pity, the self-sacrificing benevolence, the fervid generosity, which have heaped all these offerings upon the altar of Humanity, and, by the exercise of the more amiable virtues, have softened the rigorous features of a terrible political distraction. If the world has not yet grown good and wise enough to dispense with the arbitrament of war—if human love must yet vindicate itself through an opposite medium of human hate—if only by wading through a smoking sea of blood can we reach the serene shores of a regenerated society—it is consolatory to find the austere of our purgation tempered by a quicker appreciation of inevitable agonies and a swifter alacrity of practical pity. All human misfortune has its compensations. Oftener than otherwise, we assert this as a mere religious formula, rather sluggishly taken for granted than quickly felt in our heart of hearts; and we do not from seeming evil deduce good, so much as we indifferently admit that good must come, without any distinct idea of its nature and operation. We do not piously trace God in history, but only indolently prate of that old fatalistic theory that whatever is, is right, just as at the funerals of our best beloved, we use regulated words of submission, while our hearts are bursting in an agony of angry protest. But it is a peculiarity of our present political crisis that there is no possible way for us to outrun these stormy distractions except by the paths of mercy and of justice. To this same strain comes all human civility at last. Heaven condescends to teach us the mere economy of rectitude, and even to appeal to the inferior part of our duplex and contradictory natures. It leaves us for a time to our theories, and permits us to solace ourselves with ridiculous experiments upon our own credulity and that of our fellow creatures; but while, with faces prone to earth, we seek for a revelation which shall reconcile truth and falsehood, the cloud is steadily gathering over our heads, and the storm of discipline and retribution making ready to baptize us in a shower of fire and of tears. So it has been with this nation. Our crime has been the greatest which any people could commit. In our pride, we have forgotten the lowly—in the fullness of our plenty, we have neglected the needy—in the complacency of our greatness, we have been deaf to the cries of the captive—

in the insolence of our prosperity, we have defied the eternal statutes of nature, and, while other hearts were breaking, we have too completely hardened our own against all merciful intuitions. Men thought, or at least they asserted, that crime, if but the Constitution stood sponsor for it, became a decent and cleanly virtue, and that the hideous sins and shames of Slavery were venial while sanctioned by a written law. As our wrong has been, so has been our retribution. Witness the fresh graves which cover the land! Witness our desolate firesides! Witness the vacant chairs at our melancholy tables! She who has given the life of her first-born son to the cause of justice will speak no more with flippant indifference of the orphanage enforced, under the rudest of commercial forms, at the auction-block! She who has sent the husband of her heart to a field from which he will never return to gladden her eyes, will no longer regard as but small sorrows those mercantile divorces which have made the marriages of bondmen and bondwomen an unclean mockery! She who, thinking of the soldier languishing with unbound wounds upon his bed of pain, brings the product of her industrious skill to be sold for a price, that the needy may be succored, will not be likely to forget those whose lives have been all one long smart, and to whom death alone once promised to bring relief!

These are the considerations, we confess, which most forcibly impress our minds, as we gaze upon the brilliant show which at present engrosses the attention of the city. It is the moral of the great Fair which makes it so beautiful. It is this coercion of taste and industry and art to the service of munificent charity which rescues the exhibition from the common category of public amusements, and gives dignity to all its particulars. There is no object in the whole exhibition so fine as the manly or womanly impulse which placed it there. There is no painting upon the walls so true to the soul's ideal as the considerate charity which lent it to increase the aggregate of pleasant invitation. There is no music heard within those enchanted walls so melodious as the great hymn of thanksgiving and praise which will go up to Heaven from the best heart of this land, when every chain has been broken, and we have let the oppressed go free. There is no form of marble loveliness which tempers by its saintly purity the warm glare of indiscriminate profusion, which can boast of the rounded perfection of kindness, and the sweet symmetry of charitable deeds. All beauty, all grace, all elegance, are coarse and clumsy and crooked when they are measured against generous hearts and chivalrous natures. If our misfortunes have shown us our public weakness, they have none the less exhibited the public strength. We may well be confident of our future, so far as human prevision can discern it, when we find the people of the Republic not merely generous but just—not merely enthusiastic, but practical and sensible in their zeal. It is certainly not of ill augury, when a community, even in the pursuit of amusement, is guided by its better impulses. The great Sanitary Fair will soon be over. The rare collection will be scattered—the gay walls will be dismantled—the sweet convention of beauty and of goodness will be dissolved; but the kindness which afforded us this passing spectacle will remain, and the costly charm which makes the assembly so attractive will be scattered through countless channels, to render all our communities still more and more abidingly faithful to that central idea of Human Brotherhood, upon the development of which the whole future happiness of the world depends.

PARALLELS.

Copperhead journals are asking why we don't get impatient of Grant's delay, as we did of McClellan's, and urge the former to action as we vainly did the latter. This is why: McClellan took command in July, 1861. By the first of October his army was in condition to move. He did not move till April, six months afterward. Gen. Grant has been in command of the Army of the Potomac less than six weeks. If he does not stir before six months are over, we promise to try and make him. McClellan wasted the two months of October and November, 1861. If Grant shall show signs of wasting May and June, it will be time then to complain. Or, to come a little further down: When Gen. Grant shall establish himself on the Upper Potomac with an army of 394,609 men, and shall insult that vast force with a proposal to withhold it from contact with the enemy, and to open a military school for its instruction—as McClellan did in the Autumn of 1862—we shall not hesitate to declare him unfit for command, and to ask for his removal.

Will you have any more reasons? Pike County, Illinois, is reported by telegraph as having given a Democratic victory and gain at her recent local Election—majority 300. Pike gave Douglas and Breckinridge 501 majority over Lincoln in '60, and a Democratic majority of 1,066 in 1862. If it ever till now gave so little as 300 for whatever was called the Democratic ticket, it must have been before it was much settled.

EFFECT OF THE INCREASE OF STAGE FARES.—It is rather soon to know the effect that the increase of fare to ten cents will have upon those who have heretofore been patronizing the stage lines. Yesterday was a good day for all public conveyances, being wet and unpleasant, but a poor one for testing the result of the increased rates. Passengers generally will not go far out of the way on a rainy day to save five cents. No diminution of passengers was to be observed in the stage lines that have put up their price, though the railroad cars were unusually crowded. In relation to this subject we have received the following communication:

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune. Sir: The jump from six cents to ten in the price of fare altogether too steep for the private passenger. For one I do not mean to put up with it, and although both lame and lazy, I will not enter one of the mercenary vehicles until this outrageous new tariff remains in force. Let the huge army of city travelers who usually ride in an omnibus follow my example, and it may bring the proprietors to their reason by depleting their pockets. April 12, 1864.

EASILY ACCOUNTED FOR.—The Louisville Democrat says: New-York City has a church for every 3,000 inhabitants, and a grocery for every 100.

These facts account for the fact that the city gives a Copperhead majority of from 25,000 to 30,000 every election. (Nashville Union.)

FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune. WASHINGTON, Monday, April 11, 1864. CONSOLIDATION OF TWO MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.

By order of the War Department, the Department of the Monongahela has been merged into the Department of the Susquehanna.

GEN. BROOKS SENT TO GEN. BUTLER. Brig.-Gen. W. H. T. Brooks has been ordered to report for duty to Maj.-Gen. Butler.

THE CASE OF LONG—SCATHING REBUKE OF FERNANDO WOOD. Public attention has been engrossed to-day by the case of Long in the House. The galleries were densely packed long before the hour assigned, with ladies, civilians, and a very liberal proportion of soldiers. Fernando Wood, in the course of his remarks, stirred up the War Democrats by saying: "There could be no such thing as a War Democrat." He said he was not in favor of Secession, nor was he in favor of Recognition, until all means to obtain peace had been tried. But the feature of the occasion was the scathing speech of Gen. Schenck in reply to Wood, in which the various summations of that notorious Copperhead and apostle of peace were plainly exposed. He refuted Wood's perversion of history in reference to the dispatch to the Governor of Georgia, alluded to his Union Speech in New-York, his peace proposals in the House, and laid bare his double-faced course with the scalpel of truth. Affecting to laugh at the remarks of the member from Ohio, Wood finally became serious, and at last nervous and uneasy as asseman against sarcasm and fact upon fact were hurled at him with the honest indignation of a brave soldier, still bearing marks of honorable wounds. Gen. Schenck's speech was frequently applauded by the large audience, and he was warmly congratulated by his friends at its conclusion.

THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE.

10:45 P. M.—The House continues in session. The threat of Mr. Cox of Ohio, that no vote should be taken to-morrow, and of Mr. Voorhees, that no decision should be reached until all the members on the opposition side had been heard, fixed the determination of the Union members to bring the matter to a close as early as day was possible. Mr. Kernan of New-York this evening made the ablest speech on the opposition side, and was complimented by H. Winter Davis, who followed in a masterly argument and powerful appeal to the loyalty of two-thirds of the members to prove that loyalty by voting for the expulsion of Long. Mr. Finck of Ohio followed, and in common with the other Opposition speakers of to-day, quoted language from Mr. Webster. Mr. Whaley of West Virginia repelled the statement of Fernando Wood, that there were no War Democrats, by saying that there were War Democrats enough in his State to go to New-York and drive out the traitors with Wood at their head. He was for fighting traitors North or South, and hoped our arms would not be laid down until treason was crushed. He appealed to the House to decide this question at once, that public business might be resumed. Mr. Dumont of Indiana has the floor.

THE ORANGE AND ALEXANDRIA RAILROAD. It is stated by officials that the trains on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad will run through again to-morrow. The bridge over Bull Run will be finished to-night.

THE BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE. Gen. Sedgwick, before the Committee on the Conduct of the War, in response to Gen. Hooker's assertion that he disobeyed orders at the battle of Chancellorsville, stated that the attack ordered was made as soon as possible, and failed on account of meeting with superior forces.

It should be stated that Gen. Sedgwick visited Washington under the recent orders for the first time since he has been in command.

THE VOTE ON CENSURING HARRIS. Enough votes were added to-day to the vote of censure upon Harris to swell the vote to over 100.

To the Associated Press. HARTFORD, Monday, April 11, 1864. At our annual city election to-day the Union party elected their Mayor, City Clerk, Auditor, City Marshal and Water Commissioner, and carried four wards out of six, making the City Government strongly Union, for the first time in eight years. The Democrats elected the Collector. The nominee for Treasurer was on both tickets.

The Pursuit of Forrest—Grierson's Cavalry Harassing Him—Skirmishes. MEMPHIS, Saturday, April 9, 1864. Grierson's Cavalry still hang around Forrest, but are too weak to effect much.

Yesterday evening they made a sally upon the bridge over Wolf River, which Forrest had just completed, and succeeded in capturing and destroying the bridge, with the loss of eight killed and wounded, capturing two prisoners.

This morning they had another fight, in which Capt. Harrington was badly wounded.

It is reported that Forrest has been reinforced by part of Lee's cavalry, and intends crossing the Tennessee, his demonstrations on Memphis being feints. Everything is prepared for his reception.

From Arkansas—Progress of Steele's Expedition. ST. LOUIS, Monday, April 11, 1864.

Little Rock advises say the only news from Steele is that he was at Arkadelphia on the 28th. He had constant skirmishing with the enemy on the route, but the progress of the expedition was no time impeded.

Naval. CHANGE OF COMMANDERS AT THE NAVY-YARD. The command of the iron-clad Puritan having been given to Commodore Radford, Commander of the Brooklyn Navy-Yard, the Navy Department has ordered Commodore Case to relieve him. The latter is a native of New-York, and was appointed from this State to the Naval Academy in April, 1858. He was school mate with Rogers, Rowan and Drayton. When the Rebellion broke out he was assigned to the staff of Commodore Goldsborough, but has been for a considerable period attached to the Department at Washington. He will probably assume his new position at this post in a few weeks.

THE RAIL MOVEMENT AGAIN. A meeting of the ship joiners, carpenters and others was held in Brooklyn on Saturday for the purpose of taking fresh measures in relation to the recent application for increased wages, and its result. Efforts were made to get the workmen to discontinue strikes but there seems to be a division of sentiment among them on the subject. The rapid recruiting of late is said upon as a pretext for coercing the authorities to pay higher for labor.

THE NAVY AND THE SANITARY FAIR. It is said that all the valuable and interesting curiosities at the Brooklyn Naval Yards will be sent up to the Metropolitan Fair. The collection at the Lyceum consists of all sorts of shells, pictures, and trophies of the navy, swords, busts, and so forth. Of course these articles would not be offered for sale, being merely contributed for the purpose of exhibition only. The portraits of many of our most distinguished naval heroes are also in the Lyceum.

SEAMEN, LANDSMEN AND BOYS IN THE NAVY. The total number of seamen, landsmen and boys in the navy at present is estimated at 20,000. There are about 3,000 marines. Before the Rebellion there were only 8,000 sailors, marines and others, all told, in the service. Of the personnel of our national fleet at present fully 5,000 are attached to the Mississippi squadron. There are not more than 2,500 men now on foreign stations, of which the largest number are on the Pacific. The entire man-of-war force is composed of which are 30 vessels of war, nine-tenths of which are steamers. A large proportion of these 30, however, are small craft.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.—The Hon. W. H. Seward and family, Washington; J. J. Phelps, Burlington; A. Getty, Phila.; A. L. Catling, Burlington; R. M. Lee, Phila.; Major Cash, Washington; T. W. Parker, Vt. and T. M. White, Lexington, are at the Astor House. The Hon. G. K. Shield, Oregon; C. Myers, and J. Campbell, Phila., and J. T. Boyle, Ky.; J. Philipps, Md.; J. H. Fison, Phila., and Mathew Hallen, Washington, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.